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Sports pg 10

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Celebrity Buzz

Prince waiting on $300K rental fee

pg 22

Pipe bomb found, safely detonated

METROTOWN A pipe bomb found yesterday by a security guard at Metrotown was safely detonated by the RCMP bomb squad.

The discovery in an alley behind the mall resulted in the evacuation of nearby condos, some street closures and the shutdown of SkyTrain service to Metrotown.

The bomb was taken to a wooded area and detonated. Police dogs were brought in to search for more explosives but none were found by 9 p.m.

A pipe bomb was also found inside Metrotown in March 2008. It was also safely detonated by the RCMP.

METRO VANCOUVER

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Canadians back medicare: Poll

Workology pg 11

Bam-Bam takes the fall

Travel pg 16

Make room for pod hotels

Please recycle

Critical **Manners**

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Jennifer Watkiss, organizer of Vancouver's first Critical Manners bike ride — which takes place on Friday — near her Kitsilano home yesterday. Watkiss says sharing the road helps celebrate and promote bike culture. Coverage, page 3.

Baby taken from home RCMP called 'disgusting'

Infant in ministry's care after stolen property investigation

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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An eight-month-old baby boy has been seized by the Ministry of Children and Family Development from a Surrey home after police, investigating a stolen property case, found the child living in "disgusting" conditions.

RCMP Cpl. Holly Marks said yesterday officers were called to the home in the 15,000 block of 88 Avenue on Friday to investigate property stolen from a Langley home and being sold on Craigslist.

"The residence (was) described as 'disgusting' by attending officers," said Marks.

"It was dirty and dangerous and, frankly, unfit for a child of that age to be living there. The boy's parents were not home at the time and those charged with his care were transients who showed no care or concern for the boy."

Marks said drug paraphernalia, cigarette butts and sharp objects were found within reach of the baby, who was "crawling in the dirt among paint balls and tools."

"The residence did not have (electricity) and the transients were smoking cigarettes beside the baby boy in a confined air space," Marks added.

"The child didn't look malnourished … or mistreated. In a different house and in clean clothes he would fit in. He was just ignored and filthy."

The parents of the baby arrived home while an officer for the ministry was on the scene, and the couple was to have met with Children's Services on Monday.

Marks said she called the ministry yesterday, which said it couldn't yet share details of the child's whereabouts.

The stolen property — Corvette parts — was recovered.

ShareYourViews
vancouverletters@metronews.ca

RCMP needs outside scrutiny: Watchdog

REPORT Mounties should not investigate themselves in serious cases that involve death or sexual assault, according to a report released yesterday.

The current system, which was used to investigate the death of Polish immigrant Robert Dziekanski at Vancouver's airport, is flawed, inconsistent and fails to instil public confidence, the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP (CPC) has concluded.

"As the seriousness of an alleged offence by a member increases, the discretion for the RCMP to respond as it deems appropriate must be removed and be replaced by mandatory requirements," said CPC chair Paul E. Kennedy.

The RCMP doesn't have "solid policies" on how internal criminal investigations should be handled, Kennedy said.

Of the 28 cases examined, a main investigator who personally knew the accused conducted 25 per cent of them.

In 60 per cent of the cases, a lone investigator was assigned and their qualifications varied significantly.

To remedy the situation, the CPC is recommending the creation of a national RCMP member-investigation registrar to co-ordinate the development of policies.

Serious investigations should be referred to an external police force or provincial criminal investigation body with the involvement of a CPC observer.

A manual should also be created to give Mounties guidelines on how to handle lesser offences, the report recommends.

METRO VANCOUVER

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Pilots training for Olympic security
Training flights that are part of security preparations for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics will be conducted over Southwestern B.C. today and tomorrow. They will be conducted by the North American Aerospace Defense Command. METRO VANCOUVER

Local

Scary movies and science

Telus World Of Science is hosting an adults-only evening of scary movies and frightful events to go with its summer feature exhibit, The Science Of Fear. There will be a showing of Shaun Of The Dead, left, on Aug. 21 and a chance to learn the Thriller dance, among other things. Tickets are $19.75. METRO VANCOUVER

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
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‘Well-mannered’ cyclists aim to make statement

Group forms in response to tactics of Critical Mass riders

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Out of the controversy surrounding cycling activist group Critical Mass, a new pedal power group called Critical Manners has launched — one that’s both the antithesis to the other bike ride, and its counterpart.

Between 50 to 100 cyclists are expected to hit the bike lanes and side streets of downtown Vancouver on Friday for the first Critical Manners event, said organizer Jennifer Watkiss.

“(Some) Critical Mass (participants) think they should own the road, and that’s entirely the wrong idea,” said Watkiss, 29, who commutes by bike everyday between Kitsilano and Richmond.

“(Some) Critical Mass (participants) think they should own the road, and that’s entirely the wrong idea.”
Jennifer Watkiss

Thousands of people turned out to the last Critical Mass, which blocked roads at rush hour and in the past has led to fights between cyclists and motorists.

Watkiss said while the event has done “good things” for cycling, it’s become disruptive and the message is getting lost behind belligerent participants who break the law.

“I thought, ‘Wouldn’t it be great if a few well-mannered cyclists went around in Vancouver in solidarity against people being lawless and causing mayhem?’”

She said the spirit of Critical Mass and Critical Manners are the same — a celebration and promotion of bike culture.

But unlike Critical Mass, the new event will share the road with commuters and cyclists will abide by the law.

“Who’s to say that one person’s form of transportation is better than someone else’s?” Watkiss asked. “Shoving cycling down someone’s throat isn’t going to make them want to do it. You have to make it look appealing.

“You can’t paint all cyclists with the critical mass brush. Cyclists are standing up and going, ‘I want to be a cyclist activist, but being disruptive is not the best way to do that.’”

How to take part

- To find out the Critical Manners route or how to take part in the ride, visit criticalmanners.wordpress.com.

Seniors programs face cuts to funding

KARL YU
for Metro Vancouver

NOTICES A number of programs for seniors will have their funding cut by the end of September, according to termination notices sent out earlier this month by the provincial government.

The Langley Seniors Centre will lose $86,000 in funding and with it the centre’s senior outreach program services.

Those services will end on Sept. 30, said Siliva Fassler, that program’s director.

“(The outreach program) provides services (for seniors) to stay independent in their own homes as long as possible,” said Fassler.

Those services include shop by phone and transportation assistance.

NDP health critic Adrian Dix said that the cuts could prove to be expensive in the long run.

“What they’re doing is increasing health-care costs by driving seniors into long-term care and acute care prematurely,” he said.

The cuts were detailed in a leaked Fraser Health Authority document recently released by the NDP. METRO VANCOUVER

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WHAT’S ONLINE TODAY
Video Canada to pursue bilateral deals after Harper says talk of a global pact has “stalled” at **metronews.ca/canada**

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MINISTRY OF FORESTS

Smoke billows off the east flank of Mount McLean near Lillooet.

Evacuees to return home today

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Nearly 1,500 fire evacuees near Terrace Mountain in West Kelowna will be allowed to return home at noon today as the cooler weather has helped firefighters make headway with the blaze.

Around 475 firefighters from across the country are battling the 9,200-hectare wildfire, which broke out on July 18, said fire information officer Mitch Miller.

“It’s 75 per cent contained,” Miller said.

“We’re experiencing favourable weather conditions, particularly with lighter winds and higher relative humidity and a little wee bit of rain, but the effect of that rain is lost quickly because it’s very dry.”

“Unless we get a significant wind event, we don’t expect to see any flare-ups on the fire,” he added.

Another massive wildfire on Mount McLean near Lillooet remains 50 per cent contained at 3,800 hectares, said fire information officer Lindsay Munroe.

“There’s been no change (since Monday),” Munroe said. “The weather’s cooler and there’s higher relative humidity here, so that’s helping.”

Most of the town of Lillooet was evacuated after the fire broke out on July 22, and people were allowed to return home late last week.

Residents there remain under an evacuation alert.

Police seek owner of blood-soaked clothes, bedding

ABBOTSFORD Police in Abbotsford are asking for the public’s help in finding the owner of blood-soaked clothes and bedding found in a garbage bag on the street.

A woman found the bag near a dumpster in the 33,100 block of South Fraser Way on Monday evening, said Const. Ian MacDonald.

“It is likely that it was discarded within about an hour of the time of discovery,” MacDonald said.

“The blood was fresh, and given the quantity of it, police are concerned about the welfare of the individual who suffered this blood loss.”

The clothes included a pair of size 28 dark blue jeans and a small black-checkered short-sleeved shirt.

Police are treating the incident as suspicious and ask that anyone with information call 604-859-5225. METRO VANCOUVER

Housing starts slide

JULY Housing starts in Vancouver fell 73 per cent this July compared to the same time last year but they’re likely to pick up again after red hot real estate sales that same month.

According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, housing starts have been down all year with 3,858 units started in the Vancouver area during the first seven months of 2009, compared to 12,082 during the same period last year.

Multiple-unit projects have taken an even more noticeable retreat.

“There are still numerous projects under construction and a sound inventory of unsold new homes available,” said Robyn Adamache, senior market analyst at CMHC.

“Homebuilding will remain modest until some of the inventory of new and existing homes is sold off.” METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

FOOD DRIVE A food drive is being conducted at B.C. Place when the Lions take on the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on Aug. 21. All non-perishable donations will be sent to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society.

RALLY B.C. NDP Leader Carole James held a rally with cyclists in Victoria yesterday to highlight the impact of the HST on bikers. Bicycles, which have been PST-exempt since 1981 to encourage cycling, will cost seven per cent more when the harmonized tax kicks in next July.

DEATH A cyclist who was hit by a car in Abbotsford died yesterday morning just before 6 a.m., cknw.com reports. The driver of the vehicle was not hurt. Alcohol was not a factor in the crash.

GOLD MEDAL An SFU Clan wrestler won a gold medal for the U.S. at the Junior World Championships in Ankara, Turkey. Victoria Anthony defeated Chaiki Fujiawa of Japan in the 44-kilogram weight class.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Best in West to show off at wakeboarding contest

The Kitsilano Outdoor Swimming Pool will be used for an innovative wakeboarding competition on Aug. 21. The event, hosted by Red Bull Canada, will have 10 of Western Canada's best wakeboarders showcase their tricks and skills as part of a skateboard-inspired competition on the water. METRO VANCOUVER

Woman told to let deer go

Animal has been domesticated for last 5 years in Ucluelet

DANIEL TAM
for Metro Vancouver

A Vancouver Island woman keeping a deer as an indoor house pet is "killing the animal with kindness," according to the wildlife services manager for the B.C. SPCA.

Sara DuBois added the woman's "Disney-fied" point of view kept her from doing the right thing, which should have been to have the animal rehabilitated when it was found.

Ucluelet resident Janet Schwartz has been taking care of Bimbo, a female black-tailed deer, for the past five years.

"This deer will never associate with other deer and will never have other friends of its own species," said DuBois. "She's taking that away from the animal for her own pleasure to keep it as a pet."

Schwartz has grown attached to the deer and is refusing to let it go, even after receiving a letter from the B.C. Ministry of Environment ordering her to give it up or take it to a rehabilitation centre.

"What we've proposed to (Schwartz) is that the collar be removed from the animal, that it may not be restrained in any manner," said wildlife biologist Kim Brunt. "Leave it up to the deer to make its own decision and give it the opportunity to live out its life as a wild animal, like it was born to."

Brunt said there are several reasons why the deer should not be kept as a domestic animal, including human safety, disease and feeding the animal inappropriately.

"It's so unfortunate that this individual made a decision for this animal's life based on emotional attachment to the animal," said DuBois.

News in brief

RELOCATION Students of Vancouver's Khalsa School are being relocated to a temple in Vancouver and a school in Surrey when classes resume in September, news1130.com reports. The Khalsa school burned down at the end of July in a suspicious blaze.

SALMON The latest update from the Fraser River panel showed only 600,000 sockeye salmon returning to spawning grounds instead of the expected three million, cknw.com reports. The low number of fish could be attributed to rising water temperatures.

THEFT Two men led the employees of a Langley jewelry store to the back before stealing various items and pepper-spraying the store on their way out. METRO VANCOUVER

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Important message regarding the lifting of the temporary suspension of removals to Burundi, Liberia and Rwanda

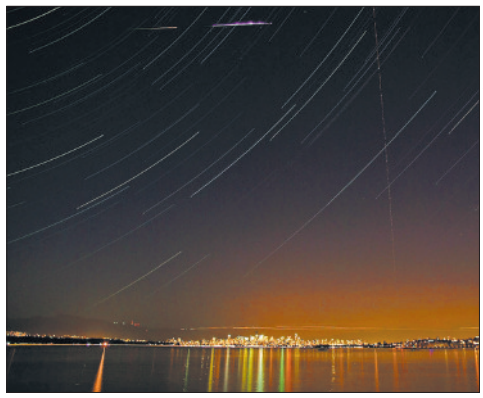
On July 23, 2009, the temporary suspension of removals to Burundi, Liberia and Rwanda was lifted.

Recognizing that some individuals from these countries have been in Canada for a decade or more and may have developed significant ties to this country, the government has implemented measures for those affected by the lifting.

Individuals subject to a removal order as a result of the lifting of the temporary suspension of removals to Burundi, Liberia and Rwanda who apply for permanent residence on humanitarian and compassionate grounds will be allowed to stay in Canada while their application is reviewed.

To find out if you are eligible for these measures and to learn more about the deadlines for submitting your application, contact Citizenship and Immigration Canada at **www.cic.gc.ca** or call toll-free at **1-888-242-2100**.

Canada



YUICHI TAKASAKA/BLUE-MOON.CA

Last year's Perseid meteor shower over downtown Vancouver.

Meteor shower peaks tonight, professor says

DANIEL TAM
for Metro Vancouver

SPACE One of the largest meteor showers of the year will be at its most visible tonight, according to a University of British Columbia astronomy professor.

The Perseid meteor shower can be viewed from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. anywhere away from the city lights, provided the skies are clear, said Jaymie Matthews.

"Get as far away from lights as you can, some place that has as much of the sky visible (as possible)," said Matthews.

"If you're patient and looking for about an hour, you'd probably see 10 or 15 meteors (streak by) and probably at least one or two fairly bright fireballs you wouldn't normally catch."

Matthews compared the phenomenon to a spacecraft going into warp speed in a Star Wars film, or driving during snow flurries.

Origin

• The Perseid meteor shower is named after the constellation Perseus, where the meteors appear to come from.

Local organization helping to reduce marketing waste

DANIEL TAM
for Metro Vancouver

RENEWAL A Vancouver-based organization is working with the World Police and Fire Games to reuse or recycle their marketing materials and signage.

Amelia Ufford, who has a background in corporate marketing, co-founded De.Brand to give promoters an alternative to dumping their materials when events conclude.

De.Brand removes banners, signage and booths for their clients and takes off all identifiable branding before donating or reselling the materials to buyers.

Ufford called the disposing of marketing materials in landfills the industry's "dirty little secret."

"There was so much waste that was being generated," said Ufford. "We made it a public question and asked, 'What does happen to all that stuff?'"

She added she hopes to do the same for Olympic signage next year.

2nd Quinn trial to begin in April

COURT A second trial will begin in April for Katherine Quinn, the woman convicted of helping her boyfriend murder Matthew Martins outside Surrey Central SkyTrain Station.

The Deputy Regional Crown Counsel contacted Martins' parents yesterday to let them know that the trial will commence in New Westminster Supreme Court on April 6, and will likely wrap up on May 17.

Quinn, 27, and Robert Forslund were sentenced in 2007 to second-degree murder in the beating death of 16-year-old Martins.

On June 12, the B.C. Court of Appeal granted Quinn a new trial, stating that the first trial judge had erred in some of his instructions to the jury. METRO VANCOUVER

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To Kill A Mockingbird pulled from high school

The classic literary novel To Kill A Mockingbird is being pulled from the Grade 10 English course at an Ontario high school after a parent complained about the use of a racial epithet in the book. Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel challenges racial injustice in America's Deep South. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canada

He has a heart of gold

Rocker Neil Young, who has made no secret of his disdain for the Grammys in the past, is receiving a humanitarian MusiCares award from the group that hands out the music industry's top honours. Young, 63, will be honoured in January for his charity work. REUTERS

Poll backs public health care

More than 86 per cent want to make medicare stronger

Days before a Canadian Medical Association meeting expected to be dominated by talk of privatized health care, a poll indicates overwhelming support in this country for keeping medicare public.

The poll by Nanos Research, to be released today, found 86.2 per cent of the 1,001 people surveyed supported or strongly supported "public solutions to make our public health care stronger."

"There is compelling evidence that Canadians across all demographics would prefer a public over a for-profit health-care system," Nik Nanos of Nanos Research said of the poll, commissioned by the Canadian Healthcare Coalition.

Support was strongest in Quebec, at 87.6 per cent and lowest in Ontario at 84.1 per cent.

The poll, conducted between April 25 and May 3, is considered accurate within 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

"There's compelling evidence that Canadians across all demographics would prefer a public over a for-profit health-care system."
Nik Nanos

The CMA meets for four days beginning Sunday, when outgoing president Robert Ouellet will present the results of a study of health care in Europe.

The study is expected to call for private clinics, such as the chain of radiology centres owned by Ouellet, to play a bigger role in the system. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Panama **Harper wraps up free trade deal Number 8**

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Panama's President Ricardo Martinelli wave before the start of their meeting at the Presidential Palace in Panama City yesterday. Harper signed a free trade deal with booming Panama — saying it's the eighth such agreement since he took office in early 2006.

Charity cash sent abroad

FINANCES A Canadian charity has lost its licence after auditors found most of the $184 million it recorded during one year as charitable donations went to a Bermuda company.

It's now unclear how much — if any — of the donations to the Funds for Canada Foundation helped the many charities it purported to be assisting.

The best guess federal auditors could come up with is about $1.3 million.

Most donors who took part in the program are being audited by the Canada Revenue Agency. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Injection sites for Ontario?

DRUGS Even as the future of Vancouver's supervised drug injection site remains in doubt, researchers are studying whether Toronto and Ottawa would benefit from similar facilities.

Their study will evaluate whether there is a need in the two cities for clean, staffed medical clinics where drug addicts can inject or use illegal drugs.

"This is not a study to see how to establish a site," said Dr. Ahmed Bayoumi, a co-principal investigator.

"This is a study to look at whether it makes sense to have a site or not, whether there should be one site or multiple sites or no sites, and whether the sites, if there should be any, should be fixed or mobile."

"We showed Insite saved money and extended lives."
Dr. Ahmed Bayoumi

Vancouver's Insite program, the first supervised injection site in North America, has been embroiled in controversy since it opened in the Downtown Eastside in 2003.

A growing body of research suggests Vancouver's program helps curb the spread of infectious disease and reduces substance abuse and drug overdoses.

But critics say the facility encourages drug use, eats up money and has not proven to have long-term cost or health benefits.

Last year, Bayoumi published a study that found Insite will save B.C. $14 million and prevent 1,000 HIV infections over a 10-year period.

"We showed Insite saved money and extended lives," Bayoumi said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

War resister wins a new review

COURT The first female Iraq war resister to seek refuge in Canada has won a new review of her case based on punishment she might face in the U.S. for speaking out against the war.

Federal Court Judge James Russell yesterday ordered a second immigration officer to examine the case of Kimberly Rivera, 27, who served in Iraq in 2006 and fled to Canada in 2007.

Russell said the first officer failed to take account of the harsh punishment outspoken anti-war deserters have received in the U.S. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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French embassy worker out of jail in Iran
A staff member of the French embassy in Tehran who is on trial for spying has been released from jail, although she is still being prosecuted, French President Nicolas Sarkozy's office said yesterday. Nazak Afshar is among dozens of defendants at a mass trial. REUTERS

World

Woman in trouser case can't travel

Sudan has barred Lubna Hussein, a woman who faces 40 lashes for wearing trousers in violation of decency laws, from travelling abroad, she said yesterday. Hussein, left, said she tried to leave to appear on a TV show in Lebanon. "It emerged when I tried to get an exit visa that my name was on a blacklist," she said. "There is no way to get out of Sudan." REUTERS

Sentence draws condemnation

MYANMAR U.S. President Barack Obama condemned Myanmar yesterday for convicting and sentencing opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and called for her "immediate unconditional release." A court sentenced Suu Kyi to 18 months in detention, a verdict that will keep her off the political stage ahead of next year's elections. The court handed down a three-year prison term for violation of an internal security law, but it was immediately halved on the orders of the military government, which said the 64-year-old Nobel peace laureate could serve the time in her home. REUTERS

Hundreds found after mudslide

TAIWAN About 700 people from the remote mountains of southern Taiwan have been found alive overnight after it was feared they may have been buried by mudslides, but many are still missing, an official said. The survivors from four villages made it to higher ground before walls of mud and rock submerged their homes, said Hu Jui-chou, an army official involved in the rescue effort. REUTERS

News in brief

HIV Fifty million women in Asia are at risk of being infected with HIV because of the risky sexual behaviour of their husbands or boyfriends, leading health experts said in a report yesterday. More than 90 per cent of the 1.7 million women now living with HIV in Asia became infected while being in monogamous, long-term relationships with men who engaged in risky sexual behaviour, the report launched by UNAIDS said.

HEIST London police released pictures yesterday of two men wanted in connection with one of Britain's biggest gem heists — a $65 million US armed raid on a luxury jeweller in London in which shots were fired.

DRUG WAR Mexican troops have found what may be a hideout of the country's No. 1 drug lord at a giant methamphetamine lab hidden in the northern Sierra mountains. Officials suspect the cabin was used by top fugitive Joaquin (Shorty) Guzman, leader of the powerful Sinaloa cartel, or his associate Ismael Zambada. REUTERS

Slovakia **Mine victims remembered**

RADOVAN STOKLASA/REUTERS

Residents light candles yesterday during a memorial for miners killed in Monday's mine explosion in Handlova, Slovakia. The Slovak government will launch an investigation into the coal mine explosion that killed as many as 20 workers, Prime Minister Robert Fico said.

Charity head found murdered

CHECHNYA The kidnapped head of a children's charity and her husband were found murdered in the trunk of a car in Chechnya yesterday in the latest in a string of killings in the troubled Russian state.

The bodies of Zarema Sadulayeva and husband Alik Dzhabrailov were found with bullet wounds hours after they were seized from the office of the Save the Generations charity in Grozny. The attack comes a month after leading Chechen rights activist Natalia Estemirova was kidnapped and murdered by unknown assailants.

"It is impossible to contemplate rights work in that region now," said Human Rights Watch activist Tatyana Lokshina, who regularly travels to Chechnya. "Activists there are terrified."

Regional leader Ramzan Kadyrov pledges loyalty to the Kremlin but has failed to stem growing separatist violence. He has been accused by some critics of ordering the killing of Estemirova and ordering rights abuses by the security forces.

"It is impossible to contemplate rights work in that region right now. Activists are terrified."
Tatyana Lokshina, Human Rights Watch

Kadyrov, a former rebel who switched sides, condemned the killings as an "inhuman crime" and said he would take the investigation under his control.

The Save the Generations charity that Sadulayeva headed provides medical and psychological help to young people who have suffered as a result of violence in Chechnya, including children who lost limbs during the region's separatist wars in the past two decades.

The group's work was not political, said Lyudmila Alexeyeva of the Moscow Helsinki rights group. "It just shows that anyone whose position allows them a gun can kill whoever they like."

Kadyrov has found himself repeatedly accused of ordering extra-judicial killings after a growing number of his critics and political opponents have been murdered.

Exiles have been gunned down abroad while others have been shot on the streets of Moscow or killed in their native Chechnya. Virtually none of the murders have been solved.

In a separate attack yesterday, a copy editor for a local newspaper was shot dead, a police spokesman said. REUTERS

Costa Rican president has swine flu

PANDEMIC Costa Rican President Oscar Arias is suffering from influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, making him the first head of state known to have contracted the illness.

Nobel Peace Prize-winner Arias, 68, has a mild case of the virus, which he tested positive for yesterday after feeling unwell on the weekend, the government said. Arias is at home and plans to do some work from there.

"Apart from the fever and a sore throat, I feel well and in good shape to carry out my work by telecommuting. I expect to return to all my duties on Monday," he said in a statement.

The swine flu outbreak, declared a pandemic on June 11, has spread around the world since emerging in April and could eventually affect two billion people, according to estimates by the World Health Organization.

While the vast majority of swine flu cases have not been serious, infected people who have other medical conditions are most susceptible to complications. REUTERS

Teen charged in school plot

State prosecutors in Germany have charged a 16-year-old schoolgirl with attempted murder for planning to burn her classmates alive this year.

The teenager from the western town of Sankt Augustin is accused of hatching a plan to lock pupils in their classrooms at her school and set fire to the building with gas bombs, prosecutors in Bonn said yesterday.

"The accused has made a comprehensive confession," prosecutors said in a statement. "According to her own statements and the investigation, she appears to have had a huge problem with fellow pupils, teachers and her parents."

If found guilty of attempted murder, as well as charges of causing grievous bodily harm, planning an explosion and breaking gun laws, she faces a youth custodial sentence of up to 10 years.

On May 11, the girl entered the school armed with the gas bombs, a starting pistol and a short sword with which she planned stab a teacher in order to steal the classroom keys, prosecutors said.

However, the plan failed when another schoolgirl stumbled upon her in the toilets as she donned a mask. The accused wounded the 17-year-old with the sword but a teacher intervened to rescue her and the two then fled, authorities said.

The teacher sounded the alarm, prompting the girl to attempt suicide with the gun. Later that evening, she turned herself in to police in nearby Cologne.

Investigators had not found any evidence that computer games had influenced the girl's behaviour, prosecutors said. REUTERS

March massacre

- In March, Germany suffered its worst school massacre in years when a teenage gunman killed 15 in a shooting spree that authorities linked in part to violent video games.

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Comment

Plenty of quacks online

Outcry follows YouTube posting of ducks being shot

TheWestView

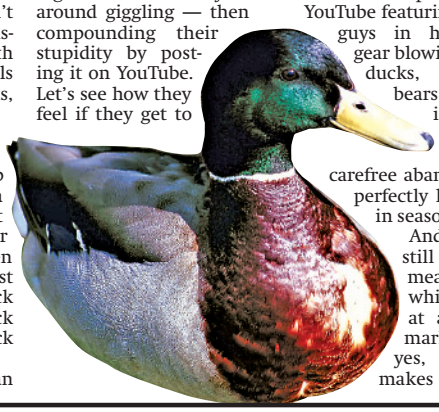
You know you're not a good old boy (GOB) when ... you don't get hunting. And I don't get hunting.

Call me crazy but I don't understand the great satisfaction that goes with blowing up small animals for fun. Or large animals, for that matter.

So when I watched the YouTube video of the three yahoos blowing up ducks for yucks on a Saskatchewan slough, it set what's left of my hair on fire. If you haven't seen it, it's easy to find. Just Google "YouTube duck shooters" and click straight through to shock and outrage.

And there has been an outcry. The three GOBs in question pleaded guilty to various violations of the Dead Bird Act. Of course, they got off with a fine and a rap on the knuckles — so now their fake contrition can evaporate like a morning mist on a Prairie pond and they can go back to being full-time morons.

If the punishment fit the crime, they'd be up for an extended stay in the Hardrock Hilton for trashing nature while they run around giggling — then compounding their stupidity by posting it on YouTube. Let's see how they feel if they get to be the sitting ducks and the jailhouse regulars get to be the hunters.



The sad truth is that one of the charges these guys pleaded guilty to was hunting out of season — a mere technicality. In season? All you need is a licence and a ridiculously overpowered firearm.

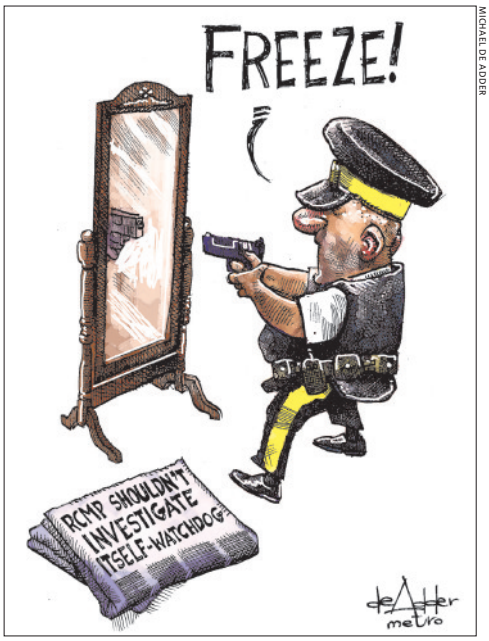
The even sadder truth is these YouTube boobs are hardly unique. There are hundreds (thousands?) of other videos posted on YouTube featuring beefy guys in high-tech gear blowing away ducks, rabbits, bears and various ungulates with carefree abandon, all perfectly legal, all in season.

And yes, I still eat meat, which I buy at a supermarket. And yes, that makes me a shameless hypocrite. I'm trying to quit. But here's the news: We have perfected the technology of fang and claw. There's no need to go out and actively track down dinner, unless you're one of the few thousand people left on the planet who are legitimate hunter/gatherers.

And if you try to convince me there's something special about duck à la buckshot, you're just adding insult to injury. Real men eat tofu.

GOBs, it's time to hand in your weapons. There are plenty of exciting alternatives to exterminating Daffy and Donald and an annual estimated 100 million of their woodland friends. Take pictures of ducks instead. You get to shiver for hours in a blind, just like hunting. You don't need a licence and it's a helluva lot easier on the critters.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

Parenting has changed over generations: Study

Fathers who were spanked as children are less likely to spank their own children than mothers who were spanked while young, according to a U.S. study.

Researchers from Ohio State University set out to see if 1990s parents followed the practices of their own mothers but found parents today were showing a lot more affection to their children, reading to them more and spanking them less.

"We were surprised that mothers seem to learn a lot about the parenting role from their own mothers, but fathers don't follow their mothers as much," researcher Jonathan Vespa said in a statement.

The study of 1,133 young adult parents, whose mothers took part in a 15-year study from 1979, found significant generational changes in parenting practices. Overall, there was a large generational shift in which the second generation of parents was much less likely to spank than their own parents.

Second generation mothers who were spanked at least once a week were found to be nearly half as more likely to spank their own children compared to mothers who weren't spanked. REUTERS

3 Reading to children had also increased markedly, the study found. Nearly three times more mothers in the second generation reported reading to their children daily compared to their own parents.

Word on the street: How has the economy affected your vacation plans this year?

Cherie Latif
age 31, Yaletown

A: I'm in a different situation because I recently moved back to Vancouver ... If I wasn't relocating ... I would probably be taking a week's vacation in Mexico.

Chad Lucas
age 28, Delta

A: I took a bit of a "staycation." I had Vegas plans but I was forced to not go because it's picking up at work because of other people leaving.

Samantha Thomson
age 30, Vancouver

A: (The economy) has forced me to take more vacation. In a tougher economy we look for more escapism. I just came back from France and England.

Joe Young
age 23, Enfield, N.S.

A: Not really. A couple of times trips fell on my lap and I took advantage of them. They were very cheap.

Celina Vee
age 26, Toronto

A: Fuel surcharges are so high, so whether I want to book a flight or take a car to visit a friend's cottage, it's still going to cost ... more than it usually would.

Pheing Ngo
age 27, Ottawa

A: I think the economy has affected a lot of people's vacation plans. For me, I'm planning to go to California closer to the winter instead so it'll be a little cheaper.

Metro Online Poll Results

28% SAID YES	Do you plan to watch the upcoming movie featuring Michael Jackson's rehearsal footage? *Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca*	72% SAID NO

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Lions Gate to distribute DVDs through Redbox kiosks
Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. said yesterday that it had reached a deal to distribute its DVDs through Coinstar Inc.'s low cost Redbox kiosks. REUTERS

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Bankruptcies surge 51% amid job losses

Canadian bankruptcies rose 51.6 per cent in June compared to a year earlier as more consumers were unable to pay debts, but business bankruptcies rose only modestly despite the recession, a government report showed.

The number of consumer bankruptcies in June rose 54.3 per cent to 10,823 from June 2008, while business bankruptcies rose 10.8 per cent to 515, the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada said in a report.

"The sharp jump in consumer bankruptcies is not too surprising given we're coming off a recession, and it's probably a lagged response to the massive job losses earlier in the year," said BMO Capital Markets senior economist Sal Guatieri. "Job losses have moderated, so we should see a slower rate of increase in consumer bankruptcies going forward."

Manufacturing, especially Canada's auto factories, has been hard hit by restructuring at the Big Three auto companies and production cuts across North America. REUTERS

Affected sectors

- Business bankruptcies were concentrated in manufacturing, retail, finance, real estate and hospitality, while the number of bankruptcies in construction fell.

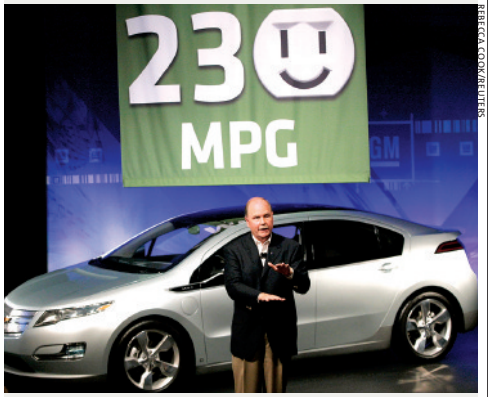
July nosedive in housing starts unexpected

REAL ESTATE Canadian housing starts fell unexpectedly in July, dropping 4.1 per cent from June and breaking a two-month run of gains, largely because of a drop in construction of multi-family dwellings.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. said yesterday that starts fell to a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 132,100 units in July from a downwardly revised 137,800 units in June. Analysts had forecast a rise to 145,000 starts.

The fall in July was attributed to a nine per cent decrease, to 61,000 units, in starts on urban multiple dwellings such as condos and apartment buildings. REUTERS

Michigan GM goes electric



REBECCA COOK/REUTERS

General Motors chief executive Fritz Henderson announces the electric Chevrolet Volt during a news conference in Warren, Mich. The Volt is on track to hit an unprecedented fuel economy rating of 100 kilometres per litre in city driving.

Business in brief

RETAIL Rona Inc. reported a lower second-quarter profit yesterday. Canada's biggest home-improvement chain, with about 700 stores across the country, said earnings fell to $60.8 million from $76.6 million a year before.

WIRELESS Canada will examine the proposed $1.13-billion sale of Nortel Networks Corp. assets to Ericsson under the Investment Canada Act, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said yesterday. "There is a process in place to ensure that the transactions are examined when they are of a significant size and to ensure they are in Canada's national interest," Harper told reporters in Panama City. REUTERS

CTV asks Ottawa to again regulate cable, satellite bills

BROADCASTING The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission ought to turn back the clock and once again regulate the billing practices of cable and satellite companies, says CTV.

The broadcaster, owned by CTVglobemedia Inc., vowed yesterday to raise its concerns about "anti-consumer billing practices by cable and satellite companies" with the federal broadcast regulator during public hearings this fall.

"At a time when cable and satellite companies are experiencing record revenues and profits, Canadians deserve better including open and transparent billing practices from TV service providers," stated CTV.

"Canadians deserve ... open and trans-parent billing practices from TV service providers."
CTV, in a statement

The CRTC began deregulating basic cable rates in 1997. It has never regulated consumer prices for upper-tier cable packages, which account for 95 per cent of cable subscribers. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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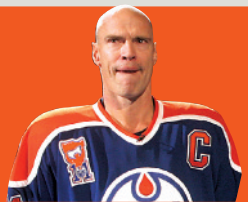
Spezza invited to Olympic camp

Jason Spezza will take part in the national men's Olympic team orientation camp, Hockey Canada announced yesterday. The Ottawa Senators sniper will replace Anaheim Ducks forward Ryan Getzlaf, who is recovering from off-season surgery. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports



Moose helps Olympians

Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton, the governing body for bobsleigh in Canada, has turned to Mark Messier, left, to impart his leadership skills. The men's bobsled team has a long history as a fractious bunch, but Messier held them in rapt attention for the 2½ days he spent with the team. Messier is now offering his services, free of charge, to any Canadian Olympian who thinks he could help them out. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

F1 Michael Schumacher has called off his much-anticipated Formula One comeback because of lingering injuries from a February motorcycle crash. The seven-time champion was to fill in for injured Ferrari driver Felipe Massa.

BLUE JAYS Hideki Matsui and Jorge Posada hit back-to-back solo homers in the eighth inning to give the New York Yankees the lead, and the club held on to edge the Toronto Blue Jays 7-5 in the middle duel of a three-game set.

TENNIS World No. 1 Roger Federer eliminated Frederic Niemeyer, a native of Deauville, Que., at the Rogers Cup in Montreal yesterday 7-6 (3), 6-4. Peter Polansky of Thornhill, Ont., lost to No. 4 Novak Djokovic 6-4, 7-6 (6).

CFL Winnipeg running back Fred Reid and defensive tackle Doug Brown, Hamilton linebacker Markeith Knowlton and British Columbia kicker Sean Whyte were named the CFL's top players for the sixth week of the season. METRO NEWS SERVICES

'Every athlete likes a challenge'

Van Koeverden upbeat after recovery from injury

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

A free helicopter ride around the Grand Canyon might sound like the highlight of a memorable summer vacation.

But when it's the Arizona Department of Public Safety airlifting you out after you broke your ankle while whitewater rafting — and you're one of Canada's most recognizable Olympians — that free ride is a nightmare you'd rather forget.

That's the story three-time Olympic medallist Adam van Koeverden has to tell heading into the world sprint canoe-kayak championships tomorrow in Dartmouth, N.S.

"It probably wasn't the best way to get a Grand Canyon helicopter trip around the Hoover Dam," van Koeverden admitted with a wry grin at a press conference yesterday.

The injury certainly didn't help his bid to rebound after a disappointing showing at last summer's Beijing Olympics, where he offered a dejected apology on national television for an eighth-place finish in the K-1 1,000 metres.

Yet the only visible evidence of the June 16 accident is a three-inch scar on his right ankle — the result of surgery and having four half-inch screws drilled into his fibula.

He's calling the whole thing a "positive experience."

"I got back on the water feeling better than I did when I left," he said. "The rest definitely did its job."

The 27-year-old native of Oakville, Ont., said he only took three days of training completely off and had "a solid seven weeks of preparation" for the world championships.

"It was a challenge," he said.

"But every athlete likes a challenge."

Basebrawl Fracas at Fenway

ADAM HUNGER/REUTERS

Kevin Youkilis of the Boston Red Sox charges Detroit Tigers pitcher Rick Porcello after Porcello hit Youkilis with a pitch as Detroit left fielder Ryan Raburn looks on last night at Fenway Park in Boston. The Red Sox won the game 7-5.

Balsillie's bid suffers setbacks

COYOTES If the Phoenix Coyotes' bankruptcy case is analogous to a boxing match, than Jim Balsillie was staggered by a couple of solid body blows yesterday.

And the Canadian billionaire might hit the canvas even before the team goes up for auction on Sept. 10.

It was not a good day in court for Balsillie and his relentless pursuit of the Coyotes, the team he hopes to purchase and bring to Hamilton as Canada's seventh NHL franchise. Two developments were decidedly not in his favour.

Firstly, bankruptcy judge Redfield T. Baum, after ruling last week that the Sept. 10 auction was open to all bidders including Balsillie, has now set a hearing for Sept. 2 to determine whether the RIM co-CEO is a qualified bidder.

Balsillie has offered $212.5 million (all figures U.S.) for the team, conditional on him being allowed to move the team.

Secondly, the Coyotes' largest secured creditor has shifted its support from Balsillie's offer for the team to the $148 million bid from Chicago sports mogul Jerry Reinsdorf.

SOF Investments, which is owed $80 million, said it had reached an agreement with Reinsdorf. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Tennis star serves up 'aces'

She may never have won a major tournament, but tennis star Rashonne Toothenette certainly won the heart of Pacific Hold'em dealer P.J. while playing online at PlayNow.com. "She was serving up aces on a regular basis," rhymed P.J., who proceeded to go "all in" for the smashing Rashonne. Unfortunately for P.J., it looks like he'll have to find another doubles partner. "Yeah, she called my bluff." Swing and a miss!

Disclaimer: All names are the products of the author's imagination. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

Pacific Hold'em Poker is the Texas Hold'em themed lottery game that you can now play online!

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University fo Toronto gets quoted ... a lot
The University of Toronto has placed 13th among institutions worldwide for citations for its research in the last 10 years in new rankings by ScienceWatch.com. U of T was the only Canadian university among the top 20. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Best law schools in Canada

Ontario's Schulich School of Business, at York University, is listed as the top business school in Canada in Forbes' biennial ranking of global business schools, which measures Return on Investment. Schulich placed sixth worldwide among non-US two-year MBA programs. UBC's Sauder ranked 10th and McGill's Desautels placed 11th in the same category. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Crash, fall and burn while getting paid

Backstage Pass

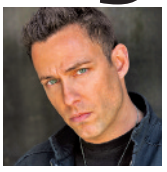
RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

James (Bam-Bam) Bamford has been burned alive, bashed with furniture and thrown out of high places thousands of times.

The 42-year-old stuntman, stunt coordinator and president of Stunts Canada has performed and managed stunts for more than a hundred movies and TV shows like Get Carter, Blade Trinity, Battlestar Galactica and Stargate Atlantis. If you saw the trailer for the recent movie Watchmen, that was Bamford getting kneed in the chest by Night Owl in a prison fight scene.

Bamford was a juvenile corrections officer and taught martial arts before getting into his start in stunts about 17 years ago. A stunt coordinator called him looking for a stunt double who could do martial arts for the TV show Cobra and tall, trim Bamford fit the bill perfectly. The director nicknamed him Bam-Bam that first day on set and the name has stuck with Bamford since. Bamford doubled for David Duchovny for most of The X-Files' entire run and was primary stunt coordinator on the recently ended series Stargate Atlantis.

Throughout his stunt career Bamford has worked with dozens of action stars like Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Vin Diesel. Gwyneth Paltrow smashed him over the head with a stool in the film Duets and he has been light on fire, thrown off cliffs and hurled through windows more times that he could ever count. While some people probably think that all sounds like a barrel of fun — and Bamford insists that it certainly is — doing stunts correctly and safely is much harder than it looks.



"People see the easy days and think, 'I could do that.' They don't see the days you break your arm." Stuntman James Bamford

"People see the easy days and think, 'I could do that.' They don't see the days you break your arm," Bamford said.

"It takes an incredible amount of concentration and an incredible amount of athletic ability to perform a stunt correctly. Just to jump off a building you have to train your brain to allow you to do it. A stuntman is not a daredevil," he added.

While safety is paramount, no stunt is 100 per cent safe — that's why stunt people get hired in the first place.

"We're a calculated risk but there's always that risk. You try to make a stunt as foolproof as possible but the more variables you add, the more risk there is. For a 30-second fight sequence, the audience has no idea how much rehearsal goes into it. Prep is everything," Bamford said.

When things go wrong, they can go very wrong very quickly, like one time Bamford performed a sword-fighting scene with an actor who went off of the choreography. Bamford got his nose sliced open and barely missed losing an eye, all because of one small change the actor had made to his movements, without warning Bamford in advance.

In recent years Bamford has focused more on stunt coordinating and second-unit directing and says being on the other side of the lens is just as fun and challenging.

"Getting the actor to perform their own stuff safely — that's an art in-and-of itself. It's very rewarding to know you've gotten them to do things they didn't think they could do," he said.

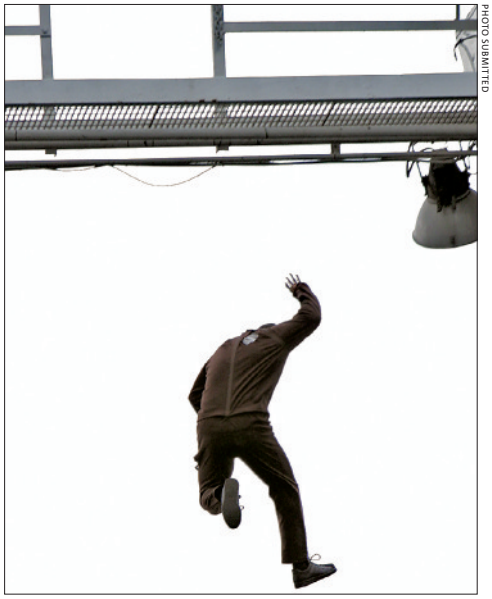


PHOTO SUBMITTED

James Bamford is seen here jumping off a bridge for a stunt.

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As a stuntman and stunt coordinator, James Bamford has been burned alive on numerous occasions, he says.

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Uncertain future for alumni mags

In his University Affairs blog, Leo Charbonneau questions the future of alumni magazines, observing that the University of Western Ontario will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of its Alumni Gazette by cutting its print issue from three times per year to once annually. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Changing face of employment law

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

Metronews.ca/workplacelaw

Employers often criticize workplace laws and court decisions as being tilted against their favour. With the broad and always-expanding reach of human rights laws, higher severance awards and a diminished ability to argue cause for dismissal, their sentiments may not have been unfounded. However, after a host of recent court cases have fallen decidedly in their favour, this may no longer be the case.

• **BAD FAITH DAMAGES MAY NO LONGER EXIST:** Since the Supreme Court's recent decision in Honda, lower courts have been struggling with whether they can even award compensation to an employee based on the manner of dismissal. In one recent Ontario case where the trial judge found that the employer committed a "litany of errors" at the time of termination, which led to an employee's depression, the Court of Appeal overturned the award finding that such conduct was not "unduly" insensitive. In another recent Saskatchewan case the court wrote that as bad as the employer's behaviour was, the stress and depression that the employee suffered was not related to the manner that he was treated.

• **FIRED EMPLOYEES MAY HAVE TO RETURN TO THEIR OLD JOBS:** In light of the Supreme Court's decision in Evans, employees who have been constructively dismissed will generally be without an adequate remedy as the court imposed a requirement that they should remain in their jobs unless to do so would be intolerable. As well, dismissed employees who have been asked to return to their old jobs may have to do exactly that, or otherwise risk being losing a case against their former employer.

• **THE POINT OF "UNDUE HARDSHIP" IN ACCOMMODATING AN EMPLOYEE'S DISABILITY AT WORK HAS BEEN REWRITTEN:** In Hydro Quebec, the Supreme Court ruled that a large organization, such as Hydro Quebec, was not required to create a new position in order to accommodate an absence-prone employee's particular illness. Accommodation does not require the employer to alter the essence of the contract, which is that the employee must perform his or her job, the court wrote. Instead, if the proper operation of its business would be especially restricted, employers can fire disabled employees without infringing human rights laws.

• **DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE MAY NO LONGER CONSTITUTE A "DISABILITY":** This means that, under human rights legislation, employers might not be required to accommodate employees with an alcohol or drug dependency. In an Alberta appellate decision, the court upheld an employer's right to perform mandatory pre-employment alcohol and drug screening tests, arguing that the recreational use of drugs and alcohol is not protected under legislation.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focusing on the law of dismissal; dan@canadaemploymentlawyer.com.

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EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

An Eclipse to watch

The Mitsubishi Eclipse Coupe.

ROB BIENTEMA
for Metro Canada

2009 Mitsubishi Eclipse Coupe

Type: Four passenger, two-door sports coupe
Price: GS $25,998; GT-P $34,798
Engine: GS 2.4-litre four-cylinder (162 hp, 162 lb/ft); GT-P 3.8-litre V6 (265 hp, 262 lb/ft)

Highlights

- New colour options
- Fun to drive
- Impressive redesign

Yellow sports cars. Always seemed like overkill to me. Gilding the lily. Clamouring for attention. Unnecessary. An extrovert's exercise in ego-boosting.

I mean, having a sports car should be statement enough. Do you really need it in "hey, look at me!" yellow just in case nobody notices?

So maybe I was a little dubious as I took my first walk around the car. Or maybe I'd just got out of bed on the wrong side that morning because, as I circled the car, I grudgingly came to admit that the 2009 Mitsubishi Eclipse Coupe looked pretty damn fine after all. Even in yellow.

Solar yellow is one of three new colours for the Eclipse this year, along with Maizen Blue pearl and Quick Silver metallic.

Personally, I've always been partial to the burnt orange shade of Sunset Pearlescent, particularly handsome on this car. But almost any colour seems to compliment the play of light along the curvaceous lines and sinuous flanks of this fourth generation Eclipse.

For 2009, the front and rear bumper fascias have had a facelift. The aggressive front end adopts the gaping grille 'jet fighter intake' design cue from the popular Lancer Evolution, a look that is spreading across the Mitsubishi lineup.

There are two model choices within the Eclipse Coupe lineup — a four-banger base GS and an upscale V6-powered GT-P version. We'll leave the Eclipse Spyder convertibles for another story.

Under the hood, the base Eclipse GS starts things off with the standard 2.4-litre, 16-valve, SOHC four-cylinder engine equipped with Mitsubishi Innovative Valve timing and lift Electronic Control (MIVEC) technology, making 162 hp at 6000 rpm and 162 lb/ft of torque at 4000 rpm. This engine is unexciting but fairly frugal, rated at 10.5/7.3L/100km (city/hwy)(manual).

As tested here, the GT-P's six-cylinder engine, also enhanced by the MIVEC system, ups the power ante significantly, adding over a hundred more horses with a corresponding increase in torque. Officially, the 3.8-litre, 24 valve, SOHC V6 harnesses 265 hp at 5750 rpm and 262 lb/ft of torque at 4500 rpm. Fuel economy is rated at 13.1/8.0L/100km (city/hwy)(manual).

This was a fun engine to row through the gears, powerful and responsive.

Inside, the Eclipse Coupe is comfortable for two.

The one-piece highback front buckets feature open headrests for a sporty look and enhanced rear visibility and were inspired by Mitsubishi rally cars.

Although officially rated as a four-seater, the rear seat in the Eclipse, as is the case in most 2+2s, is an afterthought, suitable only for occasional torture and usually more used as a receptacle for briefcases, purses and other odds and ends.

The Eclipse Coupe's interior features large, easy to read instruments and a modern entertainment interface.

California-based T3 Motion has announced its newest commuter electric car, the CT3, that travels at speeds up to 72 km/h.

Three-wheeled electric revolution

T3 Motion, Inc., has unveiled its latest electric vehicle, the CT3.

The CT3 is the latest electric vehicle designed, developed, and manufactured by the California-based company and features swapable lithium-polymer batteries.

The commuter version of the CT3 will be limited to speeds up to 45 mph (72 km/h) and is designed with T3 Motion's proprietary power management system.

The CT3 features all-wheel drive, full front and rear suspension, full front and rear independent hydraulic disc brakes and a compact design — perfect for daily commuter "around town" applications.

The quiet environmentally-friendly zero gas emission vehicles include regenerative braking, highly rigid aluminum frame for maximum strength versus weight ratio, impressive ride quality, and distinctive T3 Motion's styling. FROM CARGUIDE

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Let's say the H-word

Hydrogen is never found by itself in nature. But it is one of the most plentiful substances on earth.

In Canada, there might 10 filling stations where a person might buy it.

Ry Smith is director of the Hydrogen Village, an outreach project of the Canadian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association. He notes we may have been spoiled by gasoline, which is incredibly easy to move around: "If you had to, you could probably carry gasoline around in a pail."

There is no doubt that hydrogen is trickier to move around.

It's a gas so you want to compress it, to make it more compact. That takes energy and stout tanks. If you really want to make it super compact, you can even liquefy it, which takes more energy and then it needs to be kept very cold. The BMW Hydrogen 7 runs on liquid hydrogen, so the cars have more range.

The other way is to make hydrogen is right at the fuelling stations. Honda is experimenting with a "home" unit that makes hydrogen from natural gas. (Then you could have a fuel cell in your house, for all your electricity needs.)

Considering we are moving to post-fossil fuel future, we just might have to accept a bit more complexity in our energy infrastructure.

But there is no technical hurdle we need to overcome for a hydrogen infrastructure to take root.

The problems concern politics and commerce. The auto industry doesn't want to keep investing in hydrogen vehicles unless there are hydrogen filling stations coming.

The energy industry doesn't want to invest in hydrogen stations, unless there are thousands of hydrogen vehicles coming.

The government is not ready to mandate anything; it would rather let market forces be the arbitrator of winning technologies and winning companies.

So we have this uneasy equilibrium, creating an arid environment for the growth of hydrogen infrastructure.

Smith believes the best way to roll out the infrastructure is to let centralized fleets be the pioneers. That way one could make a fuel station business case work right off the bat.

Smith believes it's a certainty that hydrogen will be part on our future energy picture — automotive and otherwise — especially as we move to more renewable sources of electricity, like wind and solar.

So, right now there are more plot lines in the hydrogen story than The Young and the Restless. So don't touch that dial!

Fun with hydrogen

- Hydrogen is a beautiful fuel because when you use it for energy, its only "emission" is water vapour.
- You can design an internal combustion engine to run on hydrogen (as per the BMW Hydrogen 7), or you can use it to feed an on-board "fuel cell" to produce electricity to juice a motor (as per the Honda FCX Clarity).
- The most obvious "feedstock" is H20 (or water). But most hydrogen currently produced comes from hydrocarbons, like natural gas and coal.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for more than 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

COURTESY HONDA

Honda is currently experimenting with a "home" fuelling unit that makes hydrogen from natural gas.

All charged up and ready to go

Affordable electric cars no longer pipedreams for eco-conscious

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

The world has a serious demand for environmentally friendly vehicles, and the automotive market is poised for an electric revolution. The latest wave of electric vehicles that were once only auto show pipedreams are now only a few months away from general consumption.

Many manufacturers currently have plans for new electric vehicles in the not-so-distant future, but Ford, General Motors and Nissan seem to be the closest to reality.

One of Ford's projects has a Canadian bent: Magna International, the Aurora, Ont.-based parts maker, is co-developing what's now been revealed as a battery-electric version of the next-generation Focus, due to arrive in 2011. However, it will be beaten to showrooms by Ford's other battery electric vehicle (BEV), an electrified version of the new Transit Connect small cargo van in 2010.

"We're changing from a company focused mainly on trucks and SUVs to a company with a balanced product lineup that includes even more high-quality, fuel-efficient small cars, hybrids and all-electric vehicles," said Mark Fields, Ford's president of the Americas. "As customers move to more fuel-efficient vehicles, we'll be there with more of the products they really want."

General Motors knows that its plug-in hybrid, the upcoming Chevrolet Volt, has attracted plenty of attention. Even Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty stood beside a pre-production model during his recent announcement of a $10,000 government rebate on range-extended hybrids and battery electric vehicles.

However, to everyone's surprise, GM announced another vehicle that will take advantage of the Volt's costly powertrain ... and it's a Buick.

Announced late last week, the as-yet-unnamed small Buick crossover will be plug-in ready in 2011. The lithium-ion battery will fully recharge in four to five hours by simply connecting the vehicle to any standard household electrical outlet.

"Buick has always been at the forefront of new technology, so it is only fitting that the brand should debut our new plug-in hybrid technology in a beautiful new crossover," said Tom Stephens, GM vice chairman of product development. "This will firmly put Buick, and GM, front and centre in the advanced technology game."

Finally, Nissan shocked the world earlier this month when it announced its new battery-electric LEAF.

The company calls LEAF the world's first affordable, zero-emission car. Designed as a five-seat hatchback, the LEAF uses lithium-ion batteries and promises to travel more than 160 km on a charge.

According to Nissan Canada, the BEVs will be on the roads in Canada in 2012.

Nissan claims its LEAF will be the world's first affordable, zero-emission car.

The upcoming Chevrolet Volt has attracted plenty of attention.

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Smart customers always read the fine print. † Features listed are standard on 2009 Eclipse GT-P and 2009 Eclipse Spyder GT-P. ◊ For all purchase financing offers, customers must sign contract and take delivery from dealer by August 31, 2009. Purchase financing at 0% APR available through Bank of Nova Scotia and Bank of Montreal for up to 60 months on all new 2009 Eclipse and 2009 Eclipse Spyder models. Financing example: 2009 Eclipse GS (CE24-K C07)/2009 Eclipse Spyder GS (CE28-B C08) with an MSRP of $27,308/$33,608 (including up to $1,310 freight) financed at 0% over 60 months equals $456/$561 a month with a cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $27,308/$33,608. Taxes, insurance, registration, admin fees, and PPSA not included. All offers available only through participating dealers to qualified retail customers in Canada and are only on approved credit. See participating dealer for details. 2009 Eclipse GT-P/2009 Eclipse Spyder GT-P models shown with an MSRP of $36,108/$39,108. ‡ Limited time offer through participating Mitsubishi Motor Sales of Canada Inc. dealers to qualified retail customers only. $1,000 Best Buy Gift Card ("Gift Card") is available to lease customers and cash or finance purchasers of new 2009 Eclipse, Eclipse Spyder, and Galant vehicles, and new 2008 Endeavor and Lancer Evolution vehicles. Gift Card will be distributed to customers within 30 days after the customer signs the bill of sale or lease/finance agreement. Offer expires on August 31, 2009. Limit of one Gift Card per purchase. See terms and conditions on the reverse of the Gift Card. * Whichever comes first. Regular maintenance not included. See dealer or mitsubishi-motors.ca for warranty terms, restrictions and details. Not all customers will qualify. ** Best backed claim does not cover Lancer Evolution and Ralliart models. See dealer or Mitsubishi-motors.ca for Education Edge terms, conditions, and other details. ® MITSUBISHI MOTORS, BEST BACKED CARS IN THE WORLD are trade-marks of Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. and are used under license.

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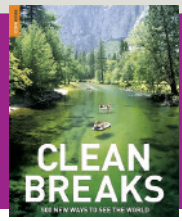
City of bargains

If you're a fan of flea markets, head to the Braderie de Lille, Europe's largest flea market, to be held in Lille, France from Sept. 5-6. More than one million visitors stroll the city's streets that weekend to shop, take in street performances and eat moules frites, or mussels with fries. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel



Low-impact travel

If you find the concept of eco-friendly travel — not to mention so-called responsible travel — intriguing in theory but difficult to put into practice, check out Clean Breaks: 500 New Ways to see the World (Rough Guides) by Richard Hammond and Jeremy Smith, $34.99. The book offers up all kinds of concrete ideas for trips that both minimize your negative impact on the earth and maximize your positive impact on a destination. METRO NEWS SERVICES

5 pint-sized pod hotels

Smaller is better at this new breed of accommodation

ROMINA McGUINNESS
Metro World News

Two examples of the pod hotel concept in New York include, left, The Jane, which features cabin-style rooms, and right, The Pod Hotel.

These days, you can get miniature versions of just about everything: Magazines, toothpaste, mascara brushes ... the list is endless. But now travellers are searching out mini-sized hotel rooms that can serve as a sort of glorified locker while one heads off to explore a destination.

The concept of the pod or capsule hotel stems from Japan, where they were designed to give people with busy working lives — not to mention those who had a few too many shots of sake at a client dinner and missed the last bullet train home — a place to crash in for a few hours sleep.

The focus here is on cheap, comfortable and compact but stylish rooms that still manage to cram the latest technologies, from iPod docks to flatscreen TVs. Choose from these top five capsule hotels from New York to Tokyo:

The Pod Hotel, New York: Pod and blog

The concept: Although there is no denying the simple, stylish and high-tech pods are great value for money, this is of secondary importance at The Pod, where the focus is on saving energy (and cash) for socializing, interacting and discovering New York City. Stop at the Pod Café, a rooftop bar serving home-style organic food for a chat with your pod pals, or find out about their experiences on the Pod Community Blog, where guests can post comments about their stay, making it a sort of online concierge service.

Expect flash updates on what's cool in town, including music, free events and activities.

Price per pod: From about $112 per night.

The site: thepodhotel.com

The Jane, Manhattan: Survivors, sailors and holiday makers

The concept: This landmark hotel in New York's West Village was built as a hotel for sailors and restored for its centenary in 2008. The building's cabin-style rooms sheltered the stranded survivors of the Titanic in 1912, but you're now more likely to come across hip but cash-strapped travellers than seafarers these days. The pod-sized rooms have the look and feel of a luxury ship's cabin — mixing iPod docking points and free Wi-Fi with antique fans. If you get a bit of cabin fever, the rest of the hotel is fortunately not based on the compact cruise ship concept — the grandiose ballroom lounge is always buzzing with guests also in search of open space.

Price per pod: From about $112 per night.

The site: thejanenyc.com

Yotel! , Heathrow Terminal 4, Gatwick South Terminal and Schiphol: Capsule cabin

The concept: Missed your flight? No need to strain your neck sleeping on a row of seats in the departures lounge when you can snooze for a couple of hours in a capsule-sized cabin with 24-hour room-service, monsoon showers and a jukebox to sing along to.

The pods are modelled after the interior of a plane — you are after all, in an airport — with rooms designed for travellers with overbooked schedules and a thirst for technology and comfort.

If you have time to kill before check-in, opt for a premium cabin featuring a techno wall with flatscreen TV, surround-sound and iPod docks. But don't get too comfortable, or you may miss your flight.

Price per pod: From about $53 for four hours or $114 per night.

The site: yotel.com

Read more on page 17 ››

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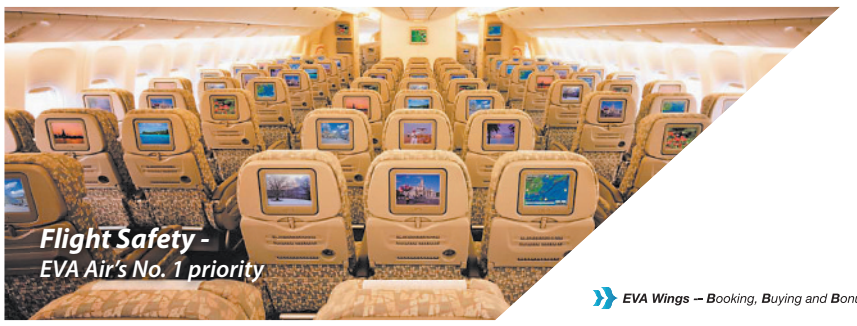
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Rain, rain go away

Lufthansa has launched a new "sunshine insurance" offer to boost sales by offering its German customers money back if it rains on their holiday. For an extra fee those flyers can book flights with the added insurance to 36 destinations worldwide. REUTERS

Two views of the rooms at Qbic, a pod hotel where guests can change the colour of lighting in their tiny living quarters.

>> Continued from page 16

Qbic, Amsterdam: Cubed and Tuned

The concept: A four-poster bed, a shower and chair packed into just seven square metres — this is no dollhouse, but an average room at the Qbic, where interior designer Philippe Starck created the decor.

Everything here functions on self-service, from check-in to the Grab & Go vending machine that dispenses everything from snacks to toothpaste and neckties.

The high point of your short stay? In your quirky Cub' living space you'll be able to adapt the lighting — mellow yellow, red romance, deep purple love — to suit your mood.

Price per pod: From about $125 per night.

The site: qbichotels.com

Capsule Inn Akihabara, Tokyo: Inn Tokyo

The concept: You can sleep in a capsule that's the exact replica of a jet airplane cockpit in Tokyo's original pod hotel. Like other pod hotels, Capsule Inn has separate floors for men and women, although sharing would be physically impossible as these functional pods are about the size of the average tanning booth rather than a hotel room. They are definitely not for the claustrophobic. There's also a main lounge area for those waiting for their next shuttle train home, or to the office.

Once nestled in your capsule bed, you'll be pleasantly surprised to find that there's still the space for a TV, radio, adjustable lighting and of course, an alarm clock — to make sure you actually make it back to work in time. Toothbrushes, robes (Yukatas) and razors (to get rid of morning stubble) are supplied free of charge and although the inn has no eating facilities, there is a world of options waiting outside. If you need to check your email or join a conference call, the ground floor lounge has free Internet.

Price per pod: From about $55 per night.

The site: capsuleinn.com

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WestJet Rewards Card

WestJet Airlines Ltd. has teamed up with Royal Bank of Canada and MasterCard Inc. for the upcoming launch of its new travel rewards credit card. More details on the new co-branded card, which will rival Air Canada's successful Aerogold card, will be unveiled this fall. REUTERS

Travel in brief

LONDON London's theatres are booming despite the recession as British audiences are boosted by the trend to holiday at home. Record numbers of customers are flocking to shows in the capital, the Society of London Theatre said. REUTERS

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Top overlooked structures

Lists of beautiful buildings laud the Taj Mahal, the Eiffel Tower, and at least one token Frank Gehry building, but there are dozens of other equally beautiful choices that somehow always seem to remain unnoticed. Members and editors of Virtual-Tourist.com have compiled a list of what they think are the World's Top 10 Most Overlooked Beautiful Buildings and Structures.

DAVID PEDRE

An interior view of the Mezquita in Cordoba, Spain.

1 The Mezquita of Cordoba; Cordoba, Spain: This complex took more than two centuries to finish. Striped arches, breathtaking mosaics and endless columns constructed from onyx and marble make this a must-see when in Spain.

2 The Hoover Dam; Southwestern United States: A marvel of modern engineering, this Depression-era structure is most often noted for its sleek Art Deco lines and understated simplicity. As beautiful inside as out, the facility's terrazzo floors, patterned after Native American motifs, are not to be missed.

3 Shwedagon Pagoda; Yangon, Myanmar: A tradition of donating gold to the pagoda that dates back to the 15th century has clearly paid off. Dotted with literally thousands of diamond and rubies, this work of art's facade is eclipsed only by its interior with magnificent ceilings and containing the relics of ancient Buddhas.

4 Majolica House; Vienna, Austria: Whimsical, singular, and down-right amazing, Otto Wagner's masterpiece is one of the greatest products of the Art Nouveau movement.

5 Opera de Arame; Curitiba, Brazil: Virtually transparent, this wiry theater plays host to some of the country's most important theatrical events. A visual masterpiece during the day, it's even more spectacular when lit up at night for performances.

6 30 St. Mary Axe ("The Gherkin"), London: Some scoff at the modern, bullet-like structure, but others are bowled over by its originality. Over three times the height of Niagara Falls, this is not the place for the acrophobic.

7 Jantar Mantar; Jaipur, India: The Griffith Observatory of its time, this 17th-century planetarium of sorts played a pivotal role in predicting the area's astronomical and meteorological events.

8 The Golden Pavilion; Kyoto, Japan: The dramatic effect of the building's gold leaf reflected in the pavilion's surrounding, aptly named "Mirror Pond," makes this already striking structure doubly impressive. Though imposing, the building and its surrounding area make for a remarkably serene experience.

9 Wiblingen Abbey Library; Ulm, Germany: The showy splendor and unapologetic opulence of this Rococo building is in the "You have to see it to believe it" category. A bit gaudy, perhaps, but even critics have to admit to being wowed at the pure vision and execution of this anything-but-quiet library.

10 TWA Flight Center; JFK Airport, Queens, New York: This futuristic, Eero Saarinen-designed terminal is a sleek, Jetsons-like structure epitomizing the glamour days of flying and was featured in the Steven Spielberg movie Catch Me if You Can. REUTERS

Hermès chopper offers quick ride to Tokyo airport

AIR TRAVEL Got to get to Narita airport from downtown Tokyo but pressed for time? Soon you will be able to hire a Hermès helicopter — and make it in just 30 minutes.

Japanese property developer Mori Building Co is launching a 30-minute luxury helicopter and limo service between a rooftop in the central district of Akasaka and Narita International Airport, normally a 70-kilometre ride that takes an hour and a half.

Apart from helping cut travel time, the city's first such service will allow passengers to look down on Tokyo from the luxury of the rich-brown calf-leather seats of a $10 million US EC135 model designed by French luxury brand Hermès.

The white chopper with ribbons in the classic Hermès orange painted along the sides can carry four passengers and will operate up to 22 flights a day starting Sept. 16.

The cost is $790 for a one-way ride. REUTERS

YURIKO NAKAO/REUTERS

A staff member sits on a leather seat inside Japan's first Hermès helicopter, which will provide a 30-minute luxury shuttle service between central Tokyo and Narita International Airport.

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Imaginarium trailer now online
The trailer for The Imaginarium Of Doctor Parnassus, which features Heath Ledger in his final role is now online. Director Terry Gilliam cast Johnny Depp and Colin Farrell take over the scenes Ledger had not yet filmed. POPEATER.COM

Entertainment

Nude photos
Nude photographs of Twilight star Ashley Greene have hit the Internet — and the actress' attorney is warning: Post them and you'll likely get sued.
PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Men on a mission

Inglourious Basterds returns to popular genre

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Quentin Tarantino's latest pop art extravaganza, Inglourious Basterds, once again resurrects a formerly popular genre.

Having previously dabbled in the heist film, blacksploitation cinema, the chopsocky epic, and grindhouse horror, Tarantino has now turned his attention to a specific subset of war movies: The men-on-a-mission tale.

These films typically involve following a group of walking piles of testosterone on a seemingly impossible mission. Tarantino has assembled a colorful cast of characters, lead by Brad Pitt, who make it their goal to inflict as much pain on Adolph Hitler's Nazis as possible during the Second World War.

Inglourious Basterds stars Brad Pitt.

Inglourious Basterds hits theatres next week

As always, his film is steeped in movies of the past. Here are a few examples of the best men-on-a-mission movies that preceded Inglourious Basterds.

The Dirty Dozen: The granddaddy of all men-on-a-mission tales refines the genre to its most basic components. We see a group of badass actors assembled for a special mission, watch them train, fight, and bond with each other, and then see the gang head into the big game for a massive and gloriously violent climax.

The cast is stocked exclusively with guys' guys like Lee Marvin, Charles Bronson, John Cassavetes, and football great Jim Brown. Even at an epic 150 minutes, this is a streamlined action feast made to appeal to the audience's base macho instincts. The movie has become a cable classic for a reason: It elicits the same hoot-and-holler response from the target audience as a football game.

The Big Red One: Writer/director Sam Fuller made a career out of aggression and sensationalism, but didn't create the most personal and arguably best film of his career until his '70s. The Big Red One once again puts Lee Marvin in command of a group soldiers during the Second World War, but this time Fuller mixes depressing wartime realism with the over-the-top theatrics (including the finest cinematic depiction of D-day until Spielberg went to Normandy).

Available in a sadly truncated theatrical cut and an overlong, but more satisfying director's cut, this is one of the most unsentimental war movies out there.

The Inglorious Bastards: Tarantino stole the title and atmosphere from this ridiculous Italian exploitation flick from the '70s, but little else. The movie is about a group of American soldiers being sent home for various crimes (including murder), whose transport gets attacked by Nazis, forcing them to fight there way through Germany to make it to Switzerland and freedom.

"These films typically involve following a group of walking piles of testosterone through a seemingly impossible mission."

It's absurdly violent and over-the-top, but that's just part of the fun. Starring '70s exploitation icon Fred Williamson, this is a lost trash classic.

Saving Private Ryan: Though Steven Spielberg's trademark sentimentalism and humanism might keep most audiences from recognizing it as being part of the genre, this is a men-on-a-mission film through and through. The movie has all the action and macho one-upmanship that defines the genre, it's just presented in a more realistic and Oscar friendly package.

Take off the unnecessary wrap around plot at a military graveyard and this is one of the purest and most entertaining men-on-a-mission movies ever made.

Octomom ready to get primetime showcase

Fox will air a two-hour documentary special on Nadya Suleman, Octomom: The Incredible Unseen Footage, Aug. 19.

Nadya Suleman

The program draws from seven months of exclusive access to Suleman, starting with the birth of her octuplets in January.

Fox said viewers will "witness the emotional struggles, physical complications and financial burdens of this single mother of 14 ... including the private moments and reactions of Suleman's family, as well as Suleman's own feelings, doubts and fears."

Like her octuplets, the unmarried Suleman's six older children were conceived via in-vitro fertilization. "It's emotional, it's compelling, you're watching her go from miracle birth woman to tabloid fodder," said Fox president of alternative Mike Darnell. "You don't even need narration, it's incredible footage. It's a little bit of a train wreck, and it's really entertaining to watch."

Fox's project shouldn't be confused with Suleman's previously announced U.K. reality show from producer Eyeworks. Despite generating national media headlines, that effort has not yet announced a U.S. distributor. Although the controversial single mother has been the subject of enormous public interest, some networks have been wary of buying a Suleman project, fearing viewer backlash and advertiser squeamishness.

Darnell himself expressed no interest in an Octomom project when asked a few months ago.

"I would not have been interested in shooting a series with her, ever," Darnell said. "But since this footage was already shot and she's such a hot topic and it's so compelling ... I meant it when I said we wouldn't have done a TV series. But a two-hour documentary makes for good television."

REUTERS

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Elton and Alice

Elton John is among the rock legends who are collaborating on Alice in Chains' new album, Black Gives Way to Blue, which his stores at the end of September. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Oksana avoiding Mel's shadow

PEOPLE Russian-born beauty Oksana Grigorieva, the soon-to-be mom of Mel Gibson's child, is ready to step out into the limelight on her own terms — not as the girlfriend of an A-list celebrity.

The 39-year-old classical pianist, who is releasing her debut pop album Beautiful Heartache on iTunes and her own website through Gibson's Icon Entertainment, has been a subject of fascination since the Oscar-winning director and actor went public with their relationship after his wife of nearly 30 years, Robyn, filed for divorce in April 2009.

Grigorieva said she is very much in love but plans to keep separate residences for now. She wants the public and media to learn who she is.

"I'd like to be judged if so, by my art, by my music. That's primarily why I'm here. Of course, if the tabloids wrote the truth about most of people, maybe it would be really boring," Grigorieva told Reuters in her first interview. "(Music) is what I've been doing since I'm three years old." REUTERS

Idol life ain't all glitz, glamour

About halfway through a demanding 52-date North American tour with the other top-10 American Idol finalists, runner-up Adam Lambert exudes a kind of golly-gee lucky-me attitude.

It isn't easy. Travelling mostly by bus — actually three buses, one for the guys, one for the gals and one for the band — the 27-year-old Californian admits the hit-and-run touring schedule is taking its toll. "It is a bit tiring but it's definitely worth it. Any time I feel a little bit tired when I get onto the stage for my set, I'm immediately charged up by the audiences," Lambert said.

"The audiences have been so positive and passionate about what we do and they definitely make you forget about being tired when you get out there," he added.

Back when Lambert toured back in 2005 with the first North American tour of the Broadway hit Wicked, he got to spent extended periods of time in each city.

This tour, which hits Hamilton, Ont., on Friday is, well, "different," he said.

"There's 11 of us on one bus and the bus is not that large so it's definitely close quarters. It's a good thing that we all get along as well as we do," Lambert said. "It's a lot of work but ... we're all goofy together, we make each other laugh. The food is not great, I'll be honest with you ... but you live with it."

Down time is virtually non-existent, though Lambert got to spend four hours recently in the tony Washington, D.C. suburb of Georgetown, wearing dark glasses and a trucker hat to retain his anonymity.

But the mascara-wearing, flamboyant, "out" star of Season 8, is looking to a future of touring as a performer and this one, as gruelling as it is, amounts to good practice.

"This is the first time I've gone from city to city, like, daily. So it's definitely learning experience and it's a kind of initiation for all of us for the rest of our careers, I think," Lambert said.

ANDREW H. WALKER/GETTY IMAGES

American Idol runner-up Adam Lambert exudes a lucky-me attitude, despite a hit-and-run touring schedule.

In addition to the touring, there's also requests for interviews for the guy who became a unwitting poster boy for gay empowerment, which included a June cover story in Rolling Stone magazine.

"I'm trying to be a singer, not a civil-rights leader," Lambert told the magazine.

But the tour has been a positive experience, he noted.

"I've met a lot of fans both before and after the show, people that you wouldn't suspect would be open to that (being gay). I think it's really cool," Lambert said. "I'm not consciously trying to change people's moral opinions on anything. I really am trying to focus on the music. And if as an indirect result, (people) are more open to different types of lifestyles, then that's awesome, I'm thrilled about that. But that's not my goal."

A handful of members of the infamously virulent and anti-gay Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas picketed a show in San Jose, Calif., but it was barely noticed, Lambert said.

Lambert also takes an opportunity to bid adieu to Idol judge Paula Abdul, who recently announced she's not returning for Season 9 — "she will be greatly missed by the audience," said Lambert, who considers her a friend, and to squelch a rumour started by Billboard magazine that he's about to become the new front man for iconic British rock band Queen.

"That's false. That's been a big old rumour that the media kind of perpetuated," Lambert said.

Like Season 8 winner Chris Allen, Lambert is in fact on a project of his own, an as-yet untitled album set for release in November. When the Idol tour ends on Sept. 15, he's got about four weeks to "really hit it hard and finish it all up."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 8/12/09	251	308	3 CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy!	Dragon's Den (CC)		The Tudors (CC) (DVS)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 JOY	E! News (N)	The Insider	Psych (N) (CC)		D. Richards	Kendra (N)	Kardashians	Candy Girls	News
	254	-	8 M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Canada (N) (CC)				CSI: NY "Prey" (CC)		News
	-	-	10 OMNI	The Daily	Frasier (CC)	Stargate SG-1 "Point of View"		Third Watch "Act Brave"		Scrubs (CC)	Discovering	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones (PA) (CC)		Wipeout (N) (CC)		The Philanthropist "Haiti"		News
	256	389	12 VI	The Road to Avonlea		Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	America's Got Talent (CC)		Monk (CC)		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Be a Millionaire		Murdoch Mysteries (CC)		Murdoch Mysteries (CC)		The CityNews
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds "Paradise"		CSI: NY "Prey" (CC)		KIRO News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	TV's 50 Funniest Phrases		America's Got Talent (CC)		The Philanthropist "Haiti"		KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Style by Jury	Friends (CC)	Grocery Bag	Grocery	Love It or List It		Cradle of Lies (2006) Shannon Sturges.		
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Be a Millionaire		Wipeout (N) (CC)		Primetime: Crime (N) (CC)		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Semi-Tough ★★★ (1977) Burt Reynolds, Kris Kristofferson.				King	Still Standing	Scrubs (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	West Coast	Live From Lincoln Center (N) (CC)				All About Prints		MI-5 (CC)
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones (PA) (CC)		Lie to Me "Life Is Priceless"		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	35 PBS	Change Your Brain, Change Your Life (CC)				Dr. Wayne Dyer: Excuses Begone! (CC)				
	296	654	64 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	Cheers (CC)	Half & Half	Healthmaster	Family Court	Paid Program
	298	653	65 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	66 WGN	MLB Baseball: Phillies at Cubs		WGN News	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	67 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Odd Couple
	199	311	76 STR	News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show-Letterman		Late Late Show		Will & Grace	Seinfeld
news	502	390	26 NW	Python Invasion		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Python Invasion		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball Chicago White Sox at Seattle Mariners. From Safeco Field in Seattle. (Live)						Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Off the Record	2009 World Series of Poker		2009 World Series of Poker		SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Dog the Bounty Hunter (CC)		Survivorman (CC)		Ghost Hunters (CC)		Bounty Hunter
	410	403	50 SCR	Score Tonight		Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Thunder	Pinks Out	Pass Time	Pass Time	Wrecked
	416	409	144 GLF	Foot Brazil		Toronto	Gol TV News	MLS Weekly	Off the Pitch	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	In Real Life (CC)		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Survive This	Adrenaline	Falcon Beach (CC)		Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	60 TEL	Jimmy Two	Total Drama	6TEEN (CC)	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Chicken	Father	Moral Orel
	557	541	61 FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	63 TRE	Comfy Couch	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Captive: The Story of Esther		Himalaya With Michael Palin		Don Giovanni Unmasked		Yo-Yo Ma: Inspired by Bach		Hockey
	575	583	20 CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Taylor Swift: One on One		Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith
	570	580	24 MM	Video on Trial	Degrassi: TNG	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Making His Band		One Tree Hill (CC)		Spotlight
	600	564	25 H&G	House	House	Holmes	Holmes	Hid Potential	Property	City	The Stagers	House
	615	520	31 A&E	Criss Angel Mindfreak (CC)		Criss Angel Mindfreak (CC)		Dog the Bounty Hunter (CC)		Dog the Bounty Hunter (CC)		Criss Angel
	628	584	32 SPKE	(6:00) Star Wars VI: Return of the Jedi ★★★ (1983)				Madden NFL	MANswers	Disorderly Conduct: Video		Disorderly
	521	560	34 TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras (N) (CC)		Police Women of Broward		Truth Be Told Hoarders.		Toddlers & Tiaras (CC)		Restorer Guy
	616	522	53 SHO	The Outer Limits (CC)		The Guard "Fight or Flight"		Lost Behind Bars (2006) Paget Brewster, Antonio Cupo. (CC)				House (CC)
	620	523	70 BVO	Speaking Volumes		Law & Order (CC)		Without a Trace "Showdown"		The Color of Paradise ★★★ (1999) (CC)		
	601	562	41 SLC	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	Til Debt-Part	Real Housewives OC		Trading Spouses		Biggest Loser
	520	505	42 DIS	Mayday "Out of Control"		Daily Planet (CC)		Mayday "Out of Control"		Mighty Ships "Mv Fairplayer"		Deadliest
	522	506	44 HIS	NCIS "Angel of Death" (CC)		Cities of the Underworld		Ice Road Truckers (CC)		NCIS "Angel of Death" (CC)		Sea Hunters
	627	528	45 SPC	Stormworld	Stormworld	Stargate SG-1 (CC) (DVS)		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Star Trek: Ent.
	294	650	57 TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	A Night at the Roxbury ★ (1998) Will Ferrell.		
	619	525	48 TROP	The Crow: Stairway to Heaven		What	What	Deal or No Deal Canada		Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	603	561	52 FN	The Next Food Network Star		Opening Soon	Opening Soon	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Next Star
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore	Tosh.0 (N)	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:15) Poor Boy's Game (2007)		Against the Dark (2009) Steven Seagal. (CC)				(:45) Fracture ★★★ (2007, Suspense) Anthony Hopkins. (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Real World (N) (CC)		MTV Live	After	16 and Pregnant Air Force.		The Real World (CC)		MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Recreat. Eden	Prenup	Poltergeist: The Legacy		True Heart ★★ (1997) Kirsten Dunst, Zachery Ty Bryan. (CC)				Paid Program
	-	-	106 MUL	Banquet	Kingdom-Wind	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical	Travel TV	Patrol World

critics'corner

Live From Lincoln Center

The 200th anniversaries of Franz Joseph Haydn's death and Felix Mendelssohn's birth are commemorated with performances by violinist Joshua Bell and the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra. The program includes Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto and his popular concert work "The Hebrides"; Haydn's Symphony No. 104 in D Major ("London"); and Mozart's Rondo for Violin and Orchestra in C Major and Adagio for Violin and Orchestra in E Major. 8 PM on PBS

Bones

You haven't seen "Bones" until you've seen Brennan and Booth (Emily Deschanel, David Boreanaz) steal a dead body in the middle of his wake. The deceased is a co-worker of Brennan's whose official cause of death is heart failure, but one look at him and she's convinced it was murder. But because he's going to be cremated that day, they need to get him out of there to find out for sure in "The Double Death of the Dearly Departed." 5 PM on STR

In brief

COMEDY It's an Arrested Development reunion at Fox. The Emmy-winning series' creator/executive producer, Mitch Hurwitz, co-star Will Arnett and co-executive producer Jim Vallely have teamed for another single-camera Fox comedy.

FINALE Fox's animated comedy King of the Hill will bow out after 13 seasons with an hourlong finale Sept. 13.

MOVIES Focus Features will finance, produce and distribute the next film from the writer-director team behind the 2006 drama Half Nelson, which garnered a best actor Oscar nomination for Ryan Gosling. It's Kind of a Funny Story is a coming-of-age comedy-drama.

PEOPLE It's confirmed that Simon Cowell will be a judge on American Idol for at least three more seasons.

REUTERS

Kenya's Style
Kenya Hunt
Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: metronews.ca/movies

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★★★★★

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ROBBIE COLLIN, NEWS OF THE WORLD

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Hudson's first baby

Singer Jennifer Hudson gave birth to her first child, David Daniel Otunga, Jr., on Monday. He is named after Hudson's fiancé, David Otunga. "The baby is beautiful and perfect," says Hudson's publicist Lisa Kasteler. "His parents are ecstatic." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Nicole's pregnancy fix: In-N-Out

MUST-HAVE With Nicole Richie due to have their second child in weeks, papa Joel Madden dishes on Richie's pregnancy cravings, people.com reports.

In lieu of the pickles and ice-cream combos demanded by some women, Madden tells People that the expectant mama has kept her list short.

Unfortunately, the simple requests come at a high price: While Richie's cravings may be limited to hamburgers from California's In-N-Out chain, the hunger pangs can occur any time — day or night.

"It's usually about two or three in the morning, and that's on me," Madden, 30, said. "I'm the one that has to run out — either go make her a sandwich or go to In-N-Out or whatever she wants at any given time."

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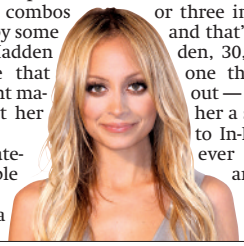

MJ's autopsy results kept hush-hush

UNDER WRAPS Michael Jackson's final autopsy report is for detectives' eyes only, people.com reports.

The Los Angeles coroner has completed its investigation into the death of Jackson, but the LAPD has asked for a security hold on the results as it continues its investigation.

Los Angeles police and federal drug investigators have launched a manslaughter probe apparently focusing on Jackson's personal physician, Dr. Conrad Murray, but also including other doctors, whose records have been seized.

The investigation has looked into the role the powerful anesthesia Propofol may have played. Murray was treating Jackson when the entertainer was stricken at home.

"The extension of security measures will help maintain the integrity of the investigation and allow investigators from LAPD's Robbery Homicide Division, as well as our partner law enforcement agencies to continue their investigation," the LAPD added. "The investigation being conducted by the LAPD has included dozens of individual interviews and the service of search warrants locally and out-of-state."

Miranda Sevcik, a spokeswoman for Murray's attorney Ed Chernoff, told People: "All we can say on this latest development is that we look forward to reading the report when it comes out."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Prince caught in $300K rental row

BIG SPENDER Pop star Prince is embroiled in a lawsuit after allegedly failing to collect a $300,000 US security deposit from a house he was renting, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Purple Rain singer was paying $150,000 US a month to stay in a luxury property in Los Angeles and left without settling his $300,000 security bond, according to legal papers obtained by TMZ.com.

Property agents 3121 Rep Inc., the company that brokered the lease for Prince, filed a lawsuit in June suing the owners of the house in an attempt to get the money back.

But the homeowners want to give the money straight back to Prince, insisting the superstar made all the payments himself, and claiming 3121 was just a third party in the arrangements.

The two sides are now suing each other, with 3121 demanding the $300,000, while the owners of the L.A. property want their lawyer's fees paid.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Renée and Bradley a secret item?

NEW FLING Renée Zellweger and Bradley Cooper have sparked speculation they are dating, after they were spotted together in Spain, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The stars recently enjoyed a night out at an Italian restaurant in New York, where fellow diners claim they acted like the perfect couple.

An eyewitness said, "He pulled her chair out for her when she sat down and he kissed her on the hand. If they're just friends, they were being awfully affectionate! Throughout the dinner they were playful and flirty."

And now the two, who star together in upcoming movie Case 39, have added fuel to the relationship rumours — by being snapped together in Spain over the weekend.

Zellweger and Cooper were spotted separately at JFK Airport in the Big Apple on Sunday — but were seen beside each other by the time they touched down in Spain just hours later, according to radaronline.com.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Here is this week's top diarrhea disaster:

"I was on an elevator on my way to a meeting (had to go 18 floors) when all of the sudden I had a terrible cramp in my stomach that nearly doubled me over. I had terrible pressure and felt that I needed to pass gas. I was the only one on the elevator so I thought what could be the harm...it was not gas...it was unexpected diarrhea! I had to get off the elevator early and find the nearest bathroom. I was shocked beyond belief and had to wash my underwear in the bathroom sink and pray to god it was a one-time occurrence. I had to go commando that day. I guess it could have been a lot worse. I look back on it now and laugh!" - *S. Mitchell*

Submit your story today at metronews.ca

No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Contest open to Canadian residents of legal age, excluding residents of Quebec. Contest closes August 26, 2009 at 11:59 pm. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received. For full contest rules and details visit www.metronews.ca

Imodium metro

LiLo and Sam reunite in Chicago?

SO HAPPY TOGETHER Lindsay Lohan surprised on-and-off girlfriend Samantha Ronson by showing up at her birthday party in Chicago, fuelling speculation that the tumultuous twosome is back together.

The pair had dinner with Lohan's younger sister, Ali Lohan, before heading out to catch a concert at the Hard Rock Hotel, according to Page Six source, who said, "Lindsay was being horribly loud." The pair headed to bar where a source saw them "fighting over which drink belonged to whom."

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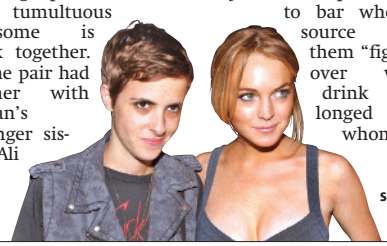
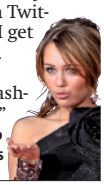


Miley a Robert Pattinson convert

CHANGE OF HEART Miley Cyrus may have bashed Robert Pattinson in the past, saying, "Girls aren't really in love with him — they're in love with his Twilight character," but after meeting the heartthrob, she's changed her tune. "Gave a hug to Rob Pattinson today," Cyrus wrote on Twitter. "OK, girls, I get it now. So cute. Sorry 'Robby' about all my bashing in my past."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Stars rattled by Japan quake

CLOSE CALL Jessica Simpson feared she was "hallucinating" when she was caught in an earthquake, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer-actress was in Japan to film her new reality TV show, The Price of Beauty, when the tremor hit, measuring 6.6 on the Richter Scale.

She wrote on Twitter: "Thought I was hallucinating. I have never felt anything like this in my life. Laying in bed watching CNN."

Beyoncé Knowles and her sister Solange were also in the country. Solange wrote on Twitter: "My sister said she was scared out of her mind and calling my mom and I was snoring."

Simpson is shooting her new series in several different locations around the globe. In the show, the 29-year-old star will investigate what women will do to be considered beautiful.

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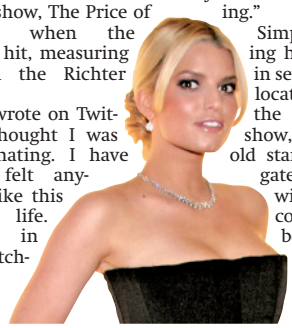

Janet far from ex Jermaine's mind?

MOVING ON Janet Jackson and Jermaine Dupri may have split recently, but Dupri seems to be fine.

A source for Gatecrasher reported that at a recent Pete Yorn show in Chicago, "(he) was partying with friends and chatting up lots of girls ... He was in great spirits, and Janet seemed to be the furthest thing from his mind."

METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES

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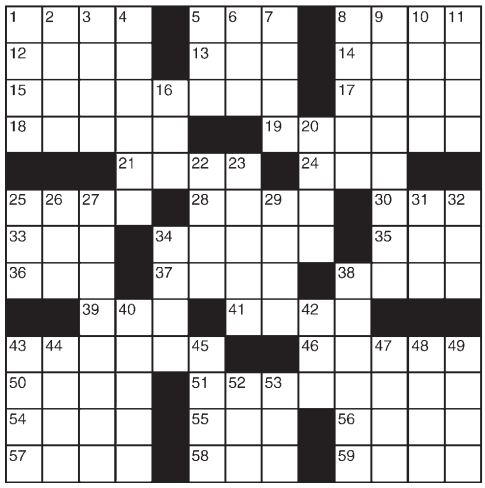
Take Five



Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

				2		4	3	1
		9						7
	8				5		6	
			4			7		
1	2		3		7		9	4
		4			8			
	5		1				2	
4						5		
9	7	3		8				

1 Duchamp's art movement
5 Uncooked
8 Remain
12 Tel —
13 Blackbird
14 Vagrant
15 Downhill racer
17 Follow the rules
18 Follow
19 Food fish also called mahi mahi
21 Coagulate
24 Year-end abbr.
25 Familiar folks
28 Actress Campbell
30 Letterman's network
33 Id counterpart
34 Farm statistic
35 Erstwhile acorn
36 San Francisco's — Hill
37 Ms. Moore
38 Wan
39 Singer Sumac
41 No neatnik
43 Urge earnestly
46 Eccentric
50 Tow
51 Admittedly
54 Advantage
55 Actor McBride
56 Black, in verse
57 Tree hugger?
58 Glutton
59 Ohio nine
1 Cornerstone

DOWN

info
2 Shakespeare's river
3 Firsties
4 Acknowledge
5 Scott Joplin's music
6 Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"
7 Kite flyer's need
8 Coast
9 Shag et al.
10 Sleeping
11 Vacillate
16 Solidify
20 Keatsian works
22 Formerly
23 Contract details
25 Author Follett
26 Billy Joel's "— to Extremes"
27 Vessels that resemble stout men
29 Bridal cover
31 Scrooge's cry
32 Firmament
34 Hebrew month
38 Exploitative one
40 Pack animals
42 Indivisible
43 Throat clearer
44 Pedestal part
45 Engrave
47 Toothpaste holder
48 Walked (on)
49 Longings
52 Discovery call
53 Ginormous

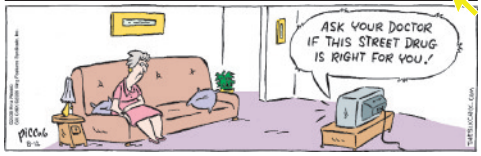
PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

E	M	I	T	■	F	C	C	■	J	A	N	E		
B	A	R	E	■	E	R	R	■	O	B	O	E		
B	L	A	C	K	E	Y	E	■	H	E	A	L		
■	■	■	H	I	T	■	A	P	A	T	H	Y		
S	P	L	I	T	■	G	M	A	N	■	■	■		
E	R	I	E	■	P	O	P	I	N	J	A	Y		
R	E	S	■	S	I	T	I	N	■	A	N	A		
A	P	P	L	I	Q	U	E	■	K	I	N	K		
■	■	■	A	C	U	P	■	G	I	L	E	S		
A	L	A	S	K	A	■	B	A	D	■	■	■		
D	E	B	S	■	N	O	E	L	N	O	E	L		
D	E	L	I	■	C	U	E	■	A	N	T	I		
S	K	Y	E	■	Y	I	P	■	P	E	A	T		

1	8	6	9	2	5	3	4	7
3	7	4	6	8	1	5	9	2
9	2	5	7	4	3	6	8	1
7	3	9	8	1	4	2	6	5
2	5	8	3	6	9	7	1	4
6	4	1	2	5	7	8	3	9
8	6	7	4	9	2	1	5	3
4	1	3	5	7	8	9	2	6
5	9	2	1	3	6	4	7	8

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day

Roasted Salmon with Sautéed Greens

INGREDIENTS:
1/4 cup (50 ml) balsamic vinegar
2 tbsp (25 ml) brown sugar
1 tsp (5 ml) mustard powder
1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
1 1/4 lbs (625 g) salmon, cut into 4 pieces
1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
1 large red onion, cut into thin strips
8 oz (250 g) baby spinach

METHOD:
1. Preheat broiler. In small bowl, combine vinegar, brown sugar, mustard and salt. Brush 1/2 of mixture over salmon. Broil until opaque, 4 to 5 minutes, brushing with vinegar mixture after 2 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, heat oil in large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and cook until lightly browned, 2 minutes. Cover and cook until tender, 2 minutes. Add spinach and cook, stirring, until almost wilted, 1 minute. Add remaining vinegar mixture and cook, stirring, until spinach is wilted and sauce thickens slightly, 1 minute.
3. Divide spinach mixture equally among 4 dinner plates. Top each serving with piece of salmon.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
The presence of someone you don't get along with is upsetting your emotional balance, so don't hang around. Have the confidence to get up and go.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
What happens today will give you a target to aim for, one you see as an exciting challenge rather than as a threat to be avoided.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
The most important thing today is that you stay calm in all situations. The second most important thing is that you keep recent setbacks in perspective.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Not everyone approves of your aims and ambitions, but why should that bother you? For too long you have tried to win certain people over.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
There may be all sorts of negative things going on in the world around you but you can, you must and you will remain positive today.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The obstacles you face may be huge but you have what it takes to overcome every last one of them. Never doubt that you were born to be special.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You may want to cut yourself off from the world and have some peace for a while but there is so much going on that it's not really an option.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
This will be a productive day, but try not to waste time and energy on tasks that bring little or no benefit to you personally.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You may not be getting the rewards you think you deserve but don't fret because a week or so from now your name will be up in lights.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
A journey of some kind will be a lot of fun but it will also bring you face to face with situations you are not sure how to handle. That's good.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
It may seem to some people that you have finally flipped your lid but in fact you have never been more rational. You see what others have missed.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Make it your business to find out why a loved one is feeling low, then do something about it. Pisces to the rescue — again.

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Phone availability and price may vary. Prices are subject to change without notice. Effective net price after in-store discount at time of activation. 1. Within the TELUS 3G network coverage area. See coverage maps at telusmobility.com/3G for more details. 2. Available for clients (new and renewal) who activate on a 3 year term with any non-promotional voice rate plan of $20 or greater and data add-on of $15 or greater. TELUS reserves the right to modify eligible rate plans with this offer at any time without advance notice. 3. Offer available until November 3, 2009, unless otherwise stated. Taxes, long distance, additional airtime, roaming, pay-per-use charges, monthly system access fee ($6.95) and monthly enhanced 911 emergency service access charges ($0.75) are extra. 4. Device usage beyond the 500 MB/month will be charged at 5¢/MB. Data used while roaming in the U.S. is charged at $3/MB. Any usage incurred through a laptop/computer will be charged at $8/MB. Cannot be combined with any other data plan. Email is available on BlackBerry® smartphones (with BlackBerry Internet Service only). Instant messaging available with BlackBerry Messenger on BlackBerry smartphones only. Video streaming is available on select handsets only and available in Wireless High Speed and digital 1X coverage areas. Video streaming is available to select mobile sites; please visit telusmobility.com for a current list of supported sites. 5. Bonus minute offer is available on a 1, 2 or 3 year service agreement until November 3, 2009. Bonus minutes are not doubled when the client chooses double anytime minutes feature. 6. An additional 10¢ charge will apply for each text message or attachment sent outside of Canada and the U.S. Premium messages are not included. 7. Your five numbers must be Canadian domestic numbers and must not include your own TELUS mobile phone number, your voice mail retrieval number, toll-free or 900 numbers. Nationwide talk & text refers to local and Canadian long distance calls made to or received from your mobile phone, and subject to additional roaming, and/or international charges. Text messages can only be sent and received from other mobile phones and subject to roaming and international charges. You may change the five numbers once per billing cycle by visiting mytelusmobility.com. 8. 6pm early night and weekend calling offer is available on a 1, 2 or 3 year service agreement for new activations only until September 30, 2009. TELUS, the TELUS logo and the future is friendly are trademarks used under licence from TELUS Corporation. BlackBerry®, RIM®, Research In Motion®, SureType®, SurePress™ and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Used under license from Research In Motion Limited. Facebook is a registered trademark of Facebook, Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. © 2009 TELUS.